

Thomas P. Smith
Acting Assistant Secretary
Strategy, Plans, Analysis and Risk
Office of Policy



Thomas P. Smith, a member of the Senior Executive Service, joined the US Department of Homeland Security (DHS) in July 2013. He currently serves as the Acting Assistant Secretary for Strategy, Plans, Analysis and Risk in the Office of Policy. Mr. Smith is responsible for guiding the development of DHS strategic direction, operational planning, integration, and decision making products and processes including the Quadrennial Homeland Security Review (QHSR). Before assuming his current role, Mr. Smith served as Deputy Assistant Secretary of Planning in the Office of Policy and as the Division Director, Plans Division in the Office of Operations Coordination and Planning.

Prior to joining DHS, Mr. Smith served over a 29 year career as an engineer officer in the US Army. During his military career he held numerous command and staff positions culminating with assignment as the Chief of Operations, Plans, and Training (G-3) for the Army Corps of Engineers. In this role he integrated worldwide engineering support to military and civil organizations and led Crisis Action Teams through nationally significant response events such as Hurricane Sandy in 2012, Mississippi and Missouri River flooding in 2011, and international contingency operations in Afghanistan, Iraq, Thailand, Pakistan, and Australia.

Additional senior leadership assignments include command of the Army Corps of Engineers Memphis District where he guided delivery of engineer projects, products, and services for flood risk management, navigation, environmental stewardship, and emergency operations for a six state region along the lower Mississippi River. He also served as the Chief of the Army Initiatives Group for the Army's senior operations officer at the Pentagon during the peak of the Army's war efforts in Iraq. Mr. Smith is a combat veteran and commanded the lead Army engineer battalion in the attack to Baghdad in 2003. Mr. Smith also led the effort to recognize the valor of the first Medal of Honor recipient in the War on Terror, Sergeant First Class Paul Smith (posthumous award).

Mr. Smith has numerous military and civilian awards including the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star with Valor Device, the Presidential Unit Citation, and the Silver Order of the DeFleury for exemplary career service to the Engineer Regiment. He is a registered Professional Engineer in the Commonwealth of Virginia and a Project Management Professional.

Mr. Smith holds a Master of Science degree in National Security and Strategic Studies from the National War College in Washington, DC, a Master of Science Degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Missouri-Rolla, and is a graduate of the National Preparedness Leadership Initiative, Harvard University. Mr. Smith holds Bachelor of Science degree from the U.S. Military Academy (West Point) and is a graduate of the US Army Command and General Staff College, Ft Leavenworth, KS.